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**MARCH 23, 2005**

## **SNOW RESPONSE PLAN**

### **STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES**

A primary objective of the Town of Edgewood's Road Department is to provide for the safe and orderly movement of emergency equipment, vehicular traffic through the Town. To accomplish this objective, the Town developed this snow response plan related to street maintenance during adverse weather conditions.

It is the Town of Edgewood's policy to provide maximum service for arterial roadways in order to provide access to the Medical Center, Fire Stations, Police Department, Schools and business districts. In addition, other selected streets that comprise the basic network for the safe and orderly movement of traffic will receive the higher priority.

The following outline establishes the degree of snow control expected for streets in that priority level:

1. All main Arteries, those streets necessary for school buses and to connect to the Medical Center Police Station, Fire Station, and Rescue Units.
2. All remaining public streets
3. Medically necessary access areas-i.e. oxygen delivery.

Priority #1 streets, as much as possible, will be kept open at all times. To accomplish this goal the Town will suspend response operations on priority #2 and #3 streets. The exception will be that equipment will be available at all times to respond to emergency situations in a joint response with police, fire or other emergency responding agencies.

### **PRIORITIES - RESPONSE TIME FRAMES**

Response Time Frames by Snow Event Volume

#### **Snow Volume/Response Begins**

0" to 8"

Begin First priority Streets by 4:30 AM; Second priority within 12 hours; Begin Third priority, as needed, within 24 hours.

8" and above

Begin First priority Streets by 4:30 AM; Second priority within 12 hours; Begin Third priority, as needed, within 24 hours, taking on a 24 hour round- the-clock response procedure. Additional help will be contracted as needed.

The time frames listed above attempt to incorporate worst case scenarios. It is the Town's and the Road Department's commitment to complete all snow operations as quickly as possible in all events.

## **ADDITIONAL IMPACTS TO SNOW OPERATIONS**

Cul-de-sacs are difficult to clear because the equipment used does not maneuver well in close areas.

Plowing may be delayed on streets where the equipment operators feel there is a safety concern, or parked vehicles have blocked the roadway.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **GOALS**

The Town's principle goal during a snow event is to keep arterial streets open and safe for the motoring public. Specifically those streets associated with the Police, Fire Stations, the Medical Center Hospital, and Schools will receive the highest priority. All the remaining streets will receive service when these priorities allow.

### **OVERVIEW**

The Town of Edgewood Road Department is normally responsible for over 40 miles of streets. Most of the streets require at least two passes with a snowplow. This translates into over 80 plow miles per snow event for the normally maintained roads.

The Road Department currently has 4 pieces of snow response equipment that operate the plowing, and cindering; assistance from the local contractors will be utilized as it is available.

### **PROCEDURES**

When a snow response is necessary the Road Department will make provisions for a 6:00 AM response time. Staff and equipment are assigned to specific tasks. To speed the response we will double or triple up equipment for plowing of the main arterials. This action allows us to address the higher priorities as quickly as possible thus releasing equipment to work into the residential areas sooner. The Town has been divided into 4 response zones. These zones are geographically centralized and similar in road volume. Equipment and staff will be assigned to these specific areas to maximize their effectiveness.

### **COORDINATION OF SNOW RESPONSE**

A snow event is a multi-department /agency event. Coordination with Fire and Police as well as other departments is necessary. In the event of an emergency where life or property is in danger, and access to the emergency is not possible without assistance, the Road Department will provide the necessary support equipment to Fire and Police as requested by those Departments. Requests for assistance for other non-life threatening events will be addressed on a case by case basis, as time and resources permit.

### **NMDOT RESPONSIBILITIES**

The State of New Mexico plows and cinders the State Highways within the Town limits this includes: Frontage Road East and West, Highway 333, Highway 344 and Kings Highway 472

### **WINDROWS**

Windrows are the result of plowing operations. The Town will, as much as possible, reduce the amount of the windrow left across a driveway. However, the windrow at the driveway is the property owner responsibility.

## **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

### **DRIVING**

Exercise extreme care when driving in inclement weather. Driving on snow-packed and icy roads require your full attention and demands most of your driving skills. A few basic guidelines to remember when driving in winter are:

- During a snowstorm, you can help Town crews by not parking in or on a roadway or street.
- Equip your vehicle with snow tires or chains to improve traction.
- Remember to accelerate and brake slowly. Spinning or locked up wheels do not provide traction.
- During times of poor road conditions, allow extra room between you and the vehicle ahead of you.
- During times of reduced visibility, watch for bicycles, disabled individuals and pedestrians, especially around schools.
- Be patient, drive at reduced speeds and allow plenty of travel time to reach your destination.
- Keep your windshield clean at all times.
- Carry a shovel and some sand or cinders to assist you should you become stuck in the snow.
- If you are traveling carry something hot to drink and a blanket in case of an emergency.
- If you do not NEED to travel stay home until the roadways have been plowed.

### **HOME PREPAREDNESS**

- Be prepared to be home bound for up to 36 hours. Have food, water and an alternate heat source, like a kerosene heater, available. NOTE: Always use an alternate heat source in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Snow can cause electrical outages that may effect your heating system
- Know how to use your own emergency resources.
- Have a snow shovel available. NOTE: Remember that shoveling snow is an extremely physical activity. If you have any tightness in the chest or other symptoms STOP shoveling at once and rest.

### **ABOUT THE TOWN'S SNOW OPERATIONS**

It seems like we're always plowed last. Why can't we be first sometimes?

That's a good question. Our drivers tend to begin and end in the same places. At this time the Road Department is operating to clear all areas as soon as possible, rotation of routes may be considered in the future.

When it is O.K. to park on my street again after it's been plowed?

No, the zoning ordinance prohibits on street parking.

Who can I call if I've got a complaint or request?

For normal snow plowing operations call 286-4518 ext. 3. For any medical, fire or police emergency calls 911.

I'd like to make a suggestion on snow response: to whom can I send it?

We'll be happy to get your suggestions. Please send them to the Town of Edgewood Road Department, Street Superintendent, PO Box 3610 Edgewood, NM 87015. Or call 286-4518 ext. 3.

## **GENERAL QUESTIONS**

People walk on the snow and pack it down, what can I do?

By removing snow as early as possible solar energy can, in many cases, complete the work and dry out the pavement. If ice does form, a commercial ice melter will melt and loosen the ice for easier removal.

I am going on vacation during the storm season , what should I do?

Make arrangements before you go for someone to take care of your property. Burglars can tell when no one is home when the snow remains undisturbed on the front walk. Also make sure that water pipes are protected from freezing.

I am elderly or disabled. I can't shovel snow, what can I do?

Those with adequate incomes should hire a neighbor or some other temporary help to clear their sidewalks.

## **FREQUENTLY USED TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Emergency 911

Edgewood Fire Department, Administration 800-894-2110

Edgewood Police Department 281-1060

Town of Edgewood, Road Department 286-4518 ext.3

Town of Edgewood, Administration 286-4518 ext.1

Santa Fe County Roads 800-894-7028

New Mexico Department of Transportation Road Conditions 800-432-4369